

MASON'S

COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'

MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

MARCH, 1869.

No 3.

WASHINGTON MEDAL, 1790.

The following article is furnished us by an attache of the *Pittsburg Gazette*. It is taken from a copy of the above named paper of issue, May 15, 1790. The medal alluded to was struck in gold, silver and composition (*probably white metal*.—ED.) We do not remember any Washington Medal bearing date 1790. Can any of our readers furnish a description of this highly commended Medal?

The advertisement is headed, A SUBSCRIPTION FOR A MEDAL TO GEN. WASHINGTON.'

"Medals from the earliest period of time have been regarded by an enlightened people as the greatest help to history, and the best method of transmitting to posterity the memory of the heroes and patriots of the age, and one of the most honorary compliments a grateful people can confer on their favorites. As the history of mankind furnishes no instance of a hero or patriot who has better deserved, or who has been more justly entitled to the affections or esteem of a grateful people, than his Excellency, the President of the United States, Gen. George Washington, an artist is induced to offer to the citizens of America, a medal with a striking and approved likeness, and such inscriptions or allegorical figures as shall best suit so great a character; and he humbly hopes to be honored with their patronage. Subscriptions

will be received in Pittsburg, by John Scull.

COPY.—We, the undersigned, have seen the medal of Gen. Washington, and think it a strong and expressive likeness, and worthy the attention of the citizens of the United States of America:

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Governor of the State of Pennsylvania.

RICHARD PETERS, Speaker of the House of Assembly.

CHRISTIAN FEBIGER, Treasurer of the State.

FRANCIS JOHNSON, Colonel of the late American Army.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 12.

Several years ago a circular piece of copper of the size of a cent of the year 1823, made its appearance in Philadelphia. On one side was shown a Liberty head surrounded by thirteen stars, and underneath "1823." The other side had a wreath surrounding the words "one cent," and surrounded by the legend "United States of America." The nondescript was alleged to be a *re-strike* of the U. S. cent of the year 1823.

It was really produced in this way: Somebody obtained an old die that had been used in making the obverse of the '23 cent, and another that had been used in making the reverse of the cen-

1818. Planchets of copper being procured of suitable size, and the dies having a portion of rust removed, were forcibly driven against the piece of copper. The obverse die of 1823 was broken on the edge and cracked across the head—no matter, they were driven and re-driven against planchet after planchet. The latter not being protected by a collar, was bent out of shape by the blow, so that it became necessary to file off the edge, tool up the hair, and fix in such manner as to appear to the unsuspecting, like a veritable U. S. cent. Only a few were stated to have been made, so that the moderate sum of \$3 00 was asked and obtained for them. During the year 1867 a great number turned up, and have doubtless been widely distributed.

An obverse of the half-cent of 1811, and reverse of 1807 were similarly treated, but only a few were really made, and the dies were not broken. People call it a *re-strike* half-cent of 1811.

During the year 1868, a third hybrid appeared, also in Philadelphia, purporting to be a re-strike of the cent of 1804. It is said that the reverse belonged to the issue of the year 1820, and that the other is thought to have been a pattern die that had never been made use of. However this may be, it is certain that both had suffered severely by the corroding tooth of time and oxygen.

All the issues mentioned above may be readily known by even the tyro numismatist. United States coins they never were, and to the appreciative student they can never have any higher standing (if at all admitted into his cabinet), than such imitations of our country's silver money as are marked in the catalogues as *base*. \$

THE N. Y. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS.

We copy the following paragraph from the editorial on first page of January number of the above named journal:

"THE NEW YEAR.—We began our January number last year with a classical allusion which we thought appropriate and witty. We had more animal spirits then, editorially, than we now enjoy; and we indulged in visions of a subscription list destined on the ensuing first of May to stretch out longer than the line of Banquo's issue. But far otherwise have the fates decreed! Our labors, alas! have not proved so acceptable. The numismatic community is either too wise to be taught, and flouts us; or too ignorant to desire teaching, and routs us; and between the two suppositions our subscription remains unaugmented. Negotiations are in progress, the result of which may be the transference of the editorship to hands more able to suit the taste of the time and fill the pocket of the publisher. Should they fail, our child must die at the close of its third year of life, worn out by measles of meanness, and the scarlatina of stinginess, and the whooping cough of contempt, and the marasmus of general neglect, and, finally, by the Cholera Infantum, which carries off so many unoffending young creatures, before they have filled a page in the great ledger of accountability."

It is with a feeling of sadness we quote the above article, and regret that there should be occasion for the insertion of such a bitter complaint from that gentlemanly scholar and enthusiastic numismatist, Prof. Anthon.

Were we to express an opinion, we should say, with great respect for the scientific gentlemen who have thus far managed and sustained the *N. Y. N. Journal*, that a want of success is found

first, in the high rates at which it is published in comparison with its number of pages. *Secondly*, in the "heavy," lengthy articles which are read and appreciated by a select few only. We believe that its sphere of usefulness is too circumscribed, and its readers are fearful about venturing upon contributions to said work, lest they are pounced upon by the critics, who stand ready to catch up every trivial error, and contradict without correcting the same. We hope our very able and worthy friends of the New York Magazine will make another effort, and we will put our shoulder to their hind wheel, and warmly push while they pull, until the summit of the hill of *fame*, if not *fortune* is gained. And will now state, that if any person will send through us, three dollars for a subscription to *N. Y. Journal of Numismatics for one year*, we will enter the party's name upon our books, and send our magazine free for one year.

Reduce your price Messrs Managers; print short articles; strike out for the masses; cut loose from adamantine fossils; let your columns be open for advice, instruction and edification as well. Numismatology is a dry study—make it an entertaining and amusing one. Better cram your journal with short happy articles, pithy and snappy, than moulder and go to decay among the cobwebs and dust of the dark ages, and finally flicker out like a badly snuffed candle.

WHICH IS IT.

On the edge of all the 1793 chain cents, is to be found a species of vine and leaves alternating with a number of stripes or bars. It has been the common belief that these indentations on the outer edge of the '93 chain cents were intended for the stars and stripes; but J. N. T. Levick, of New York, among others has adopted the name of "Vine

and Bars," instead of stripes and stars. We think the critic, Wm. Cleneay, of Cincinnati, Ohio, who attempts a criticism of our history of the '93 cents (in the January number of *N. Y. A. N. Journal*), should correct a *supposed* error when criticising it.

He says, "he, (Mason), has fallen into the common error of describing the chain cents as with stars and stripes on the edge." Why not give his authority for the criticism? Why will critics pounce down upon what they consider an error, and leave the numismatic public as far in the dark as ever? What earthly use are such critics to science? We would say to W. Cleneay, of Cincinnati, Ohio, that we commit many errors in our numismatic writings, and are willing to be criticised, *if corrected*; but when he comes out upon a "common" error, let him show his authority, and at the same time correct it, or else stand aside as a useless scribbler, who wishes to exhibit a talent that is valueless to the community.

HISTORY OF U. S. MEDALS.

FROM 1776 TO 1868.

Including Presidential, Army, Navy, and Miscellaneous.

BY E. M. JR.

There were three medals in all struck to commemorate the victory at Stony Point. The third by "resolution of Congress," &c., was awarded to Col. De Fleury, as a token of the respect and esteem of the United States Government for his gallant conduct in that memorable engagement. Obverse a soldier in Roman costume standing amid ruins of the Fort at Stony Point, trampling upon the British Flag, the staff of which is elevated in his left hand, while in the extended right hand he clasps an unsheathed sword. *Legend.* VIRTUTIS ET AUDACIÆ MONUM. EXER-

GUE. D. DE FLEURY EQUITI GALLO PRIMO SUPERMUROS RESP; AMERICA, D. D.

Reverse. A double turretted fort; flag upon an eminence; river below, where vessels are sailing. Two batteries are seen at left of the eminence, one in the act of firing upon a vessel in the stream. *Legend;* AGGERES PALUDES HOSTES VIDTI. EXERGUE; STONY PT. EXPUGN. XV JUL. MDCCXXXIX. This medal was struck in silver. *Size* 29.

(*To be continued.*)

UNIQUE "MULE PIECE."

There is a strange story going the rounds of the newspaper press, to the effect that a mule, being afflicted with a painful protuberance upon some part of his body, was killed, and the wound dissected, when, to the great astonishment of the veterinary attendants, a copper, some say a silver coin, was found embedded in the flesh of the diseased part. The question arises: how came the coin in such a locality? The inquisitive numismatist would naturally desire further information regarding this mule piece. Was it an 1804 U. S. silver dollar, or 1802 silver half-dime? Both pieces being desirable to complete nine-tenths of the cabinets extant. *Perhaps* it was an 1815 cent, which has flitted before the minds of the numismatic world between a myth and a reality for nearly half a century; and to find which has exercised the minds of collectors to a fearful extent. We do not wish to place the mule in the category of coin collectors, for fear the opponents of the science would get things mixed, and have another personal reflection to cast at the lovers of numismatology. Should any of our readers hear of a porcine dissection, where a "Sommer Islands" piece is brought to light, we will cheerfully report the discovery of the *unique* "hog piece."

"G. C. P." ON THE "COIN COLLECTOR'S ASSISTANT."

We observe, in the January number of the New York Am. J. of N., that a correspondent from away off in Ohio, has given our Magazine the above appropriate title, coupled with the hope that the publication in New York may not sink to the standard of the Philadelphia concern! What means the Ohioian? By reference to the January number of the New York magazine, it appears that said Journal has not been properly sustained, and the worthy editor fears that the present volume may be the last. Surely if the latter publication should "sink," (does he mean rise?) to a level with ours, there would be no cause of complaint, as our subscription list has bounded up until it has reached a circulation to warrant us in saying it is a glorious and undisputed success; and we intend to make its success greater—employ and *pay* the best numismatic writers in America, to produce articles which will enlighten and entertain, even the befogged gentleman from the West, "G. C. P." The latter *innocently* gives a description of the Baily medal (*Japanese Embassy*) as a piece of news for the New York Magazine, while said medal has been frequently described in the Philadelphia and other newspapers, and has become rather stale news hereway. We would advise "G. C. P." to become a subscriber to some numismatic periodical, that he may be better posted, and not commit himself to such egregious blunders, as mar his first attempt as a critic, and numismatic newsmonger. In reference to his suggestion that our magazine should be termed the "COLLECTOR'S ASSISTANT," we would say we accept the designation. *It is an Assistant* to collectors, and that is where it differs materially from its contemporaries. It is the greatest compliment we have yet

received, that our journal aids the collector; and when we are justly charged with a disposition to neglect furnishing the numismatist with all the assistance in our power, we will cease publishing a work, which, apart from such a proper object, would be a nonentity in the numismatic world.

We shall allude to "G. C. P.'s" article in a future number, and examine the "Study of Numismatics," about which he prates so knowingly, in hopes of teaching him that *civility* is a part of "common sense," found in the possession of every gentlemanly collector, and numismatic scholar, while *would-be critics* are known by the venom they emit; criticising that which is as far beyond their reach as the twinkling stars in the blue firmament above.

COGAN VS. MASON—THE LAST WORD.

Our worthy numismatic antagonist, Mr. Cogan, having failed to take entire possession of the columns of the New York Numismatic Journal, with his classical, anecdotal, mirth-provoking syntax-destroying communications, has rushed into print through the medium of a three paged circular, and has been actively engaged in spreading the numismatic gospel (according to *Edward*) by post to nearly all the coin collectors in the country. We would propose to cite witnesses on the vexed question of the R. sale, and take evidence, *pro.* and *con.*; issue a few volumes, bound in *calfskin*, with an index and commentaries for future reference; but we fear our pertinacious and contumacious friend might follow with a *sequel*, and the present generation be deprived of the "fun," which may be all well enough as a condiment in infinitesimal doses, but as a regular medicine rather nauseating.

Under this view of the matter, we

promise our readers to drop the amusing coin controversy, which has occupied rather too much attention already; and is all well enough when participated in by a Webster and Hayne, but when two ordinary mortals engage in a public display of letter-writing for polite readers, the spectacle is really amusing, and we believe our sarcastic co-laborer, Mr. Cogan, will join us in saying, that such ebullitions become only the school-boy, and are unworthy a serious thought by the lover of science, or the seeker after numismatic intelligence. Now, my dear brother C, let us cry *quits*. The R. sale put a chip on our hat—you knocked it off—we did not *strike*—*you* only showed your *ivories*.

Now, "to err is human," and we regret the errors that have occurred on both sides, and as forgiveness is divinity, we cheerfully pardon our erring brother, even the *misquotations* from strictly confidential communications; and now we will conclude by singing that good old hymn—

"Let dogs delight
To bark and bite," &c.

AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER OF "MAD ANTHONY."

Head Quarters, Pittsburgh,
18th Nov., 1792.

MESSRS. ELLIOTT AND WILLIAMS.

Gentlemen: Since my letter of the 8th ultimo, directing the deposits of provision at the respective ports and places therein mentioned, I have had a conversation with you *viva voce*, in which I requested, and you agreed, to abridge the meat part of the rations at the advanced posts of Forts Jefferson and St. Clair, 100,000 lbs., substituted by an equal quantity of *Stall'd beef*, in readiness to move at the shortest notice. Subsequent to that conversation we have received two letters from the Secretary of War, the one dated the 2d

and the other the 9th instant, on the subject of the deposit of rations at the respective posts in advance, which differs considerably from that which I had ordered in my letter of the 8th ultimo, as you will see by the enclosed copy of a letter from the Secretary of War to the Secretary of the Treasury, dated the 3d inst. This letter came by the last post, and would appear to be the natural result of a consultation between the President and Secretary of War. Therefore, although it is contrary to my own judgment, yet it becomes my duty to order and direct, that you make your arrangements of deposits at the respective posts and places, as nearly agreeable to the quantities mentioned in the said copy of letter from the Secretary of War to the Secretary of the Treasury, as circumstances will admit, except as to the daily issues at Fort Washington to Fort Jefferson included, which must be the same mentioned in my letter of the 8th ultimo. Should you have made any purchases or arrangements in pursuance of my letter of the 8th ult., which in your opinion can't be altered so as to *quaderate* with the Secretary of War's orders for the quantities of the deposits in advance at the respective post plans, you will please to point them out, at the same time you are, as far as practicable, to be governed by his estimates, as contained in the enclosed letter.

I am, gentlemen, your most
obedient and very
humble servant,

ANTHONY WAYNE.

NEW ISSUE.



CUBA—Follows the mother country in a new set, and like Spain, keeps last years' design printed in different colors. The date is altered to the current year. We have only been able to obtain one value, *viz.*: the five cent. The color is pale burnt sienna. It is perforated and printed on white unwatermarked paper.

VARIETIES.

Money-Spending—Egg Collecting—Dr. Brewer and Mr. Wilmot—Naturalists' Hobbies—A Notions' Man—How He Broke Up—His Library—A Book-Collecting Lawyer—Selling to Buy Again—Chalmers—Granger—Bowyer Bible—Clarendon's Rebellion—Boydell's Shakespeare—Voltaire—Edinburgh Collectors—The Title-Page Man.

BY DR. R. SHELTON MACKENZIE.

There are more ways of killing a rat, one of the Spanish proverbs says, than by giving him arsenic. This means that there are many ways of doing things. For example, while such a foolish rattle pate as the young Marquis had dissipated a princely property and brought himself to the grave, at the age of twenty-six, by riotous living, gambling on the turf, and universal hard-living, showing a mind at once weak and wicked, many well-disposed and amiable men have become involved in pecuniary difficulties, by riding a favorite hobby rather too hard—said hobby really being the reverse of vicious. Some men go in for collecting paintings, others are wild after old engravings, more are fond of accumulating a large variety of curious or ancient coins, and I knew a gentleman, member of the Inner Temple, London, who, having an official position in one of the law-courts, which yielded him some \$4,000 per annum, with very little to do, actually contrived to live on \$500 (he owned his rooms in the Temple,) and expended the balance of \$3,500 per annum in purchasing birds' eggs. He had, as correspondents, a number of other egg-collectors in every part of the globe. And they used to trade off their duplicates, whenever they happened to have any. This gentleman's name was Wilmot, and I remember that among his most valued correspondents in the egg line, was Dr. Brewer, then (and perhaps still) of Boston, where he was connected with a well-known journal, then called the Atlas.

It happened that Dr. Brewer was very liberal, and sent many more specimens to Mr. Wilmot than he received himself in return. I remember Wilmot's joy, whenever a fresh little box would reach him from Boston. Each box was divided into compartments, each to hold a single egg, so admirably packed that breakage was almost impossible. Many persons used to laugh at poor Wilmot's zeal in egg-collecting, and shrug their shoulders at the idea of his expenditure upon it. No doubt, it surprised them to see his room lined with cabinets, containing a great number of little drawers, all neatly divided, and the eggs arranged very carefully therein. They did not realize that Wilmot and Brewer, and such like, were laborious students in the extensive field of natural history. They could tell, at a glance, from what species of bird such or such an egg came; what were the characteristics of the bird; what countries it mostly inhabited; how these were affected by climate, and so on. Mr. Wilmot died some years ago, and, to his nieces' surprise, they having always thought him half mad, because he spent most of his means on the hobby of egg-collecting, various great naturalists, at home and abroad, recommended their respective Governments to purchase his collection, said to be almost unique, and, after much competition between the British Museum in London and the Louvre in Paris, it was purchased for the former national institution at a heavy price. I know not how much, but it was considerably more than Mr. Wilmot had expended on it, all his life. After all, the egg investment was a good one.

In this city of Philadelphia, I made the acquaintance, ten years ago, with a very intelligent gentleman, who kept a notions' store in one of the streets off Market, below Sixth. He had a very good business, and was perfectly master

of it in all its details. His personal and home expenditures were much within the profits of his business. Still, he did not get rich. He appeared to do little more than make a living, whereas, with his experience and opportunities, he ought to have become a leader in the trade in a few years. He contrived to keep up a respectable, but not increasing stock. Seeing a great deal of him, I could bear testimony to his blameless life, and the greater was my wonder at his not getting on. Passing by his store, one day, I found it closed, and ascertained, on inquiry, that he had closed because he was unable to meet his pecuniary engagements. Soon after, I ascertained how it was. He had spent his money in collecting a library, consisting of the best works, rarest editions, finest bindings. In this way over \$20,000 had gone. Not wasted—not thrown away—but, as it turned out, well invested. He had a taste for illustrating books. Thus, taking a large paper copy of a book, he would add views, portraits, sketches, autographs, until its size was doubled or trebled. For instance, a large paper copy of Irving's *Life of George Washington*, in *five* volumes—it was easy to extend this to *fifteen*, by adding engravings, autographs, &c., and my friend did it, easily sinking some twelve or fifteen hundred dollars in that exploit. The autographs and engraved portraits of all the leading persons named in that biography would soon cost many hundred dollars. Sometimes, when the work to be illustrated is to be found only in octavo or duodecimo, it has to be taken to pieces—every separate page inserted on a sheet of larger size, and thus made ready for the accompaniment of large engravings. My friend's library, dear to him as the very apple of his eye, was brought to the hammer at New York, where rare and handsome books obtain higher

prices than in Philadelphia. The catalogue made a handsome octavo, and the proceeds of the sale were more, by about \$10,000, than the library had cost at first. Here was a creditable and profitable result of having exercised judgment in originally collecting the books. My friend's end was fortunate. After the break up of his own business, he got confidential employment in a large wholesale house in Market street, below fifth, and, after he had been there for some time, he attracted the notice of the great A. T. Stewart, who prevailed upon his employers to let him take office in his great establishment in New York. He placed him over the notions' department there, and, when I last heard of him, was paying him at the rate of \$12,000 a-year. Whether he has gone back to book-collecting, this deponent knoweth not. Very probably he dabbles in it still, for it is difficult to relinquish a habit.—*Phila. Sat. Night.*

(To be Continued.)

NEW STAMP ALBUM.

We have received, by steamer from England, a new and beautiful Stamp Album, just published by Messrs. Stafford Smith & Co., Brighton, England. We must, in justice, confess that this Album is the best adapted for stamp gathering and arranging of any we have yet examined. It contains supplementary leaves, bound up with the book, and has ample space for all the stamps yet issued, and for all that may be issued for many years to come. It is oblong in form, 8vo., printed on heavy paper, handsomely bound in cloth and morocco, with extra gilt clasp. We should say that this Album will well sustain its title of THE PERMANENT STAMP ALBUM, and does infinite credit to its originator and author, H. Stafford Smith.

STAMP CORRESPONDENCE.

[We copy the following communication from the *American Journal of Philately*, N. Y., which embodies good sound advice to stamp collectors.—ED.]

New York, January 10th, 1869.

Mr. Editor :—When I first commenced "stamp collecting," some time since, I was entirely in the dark in regard to the petty details of the most interesting study of Philately. How to commence; what album to employ; who to purchase of, and how to prepare and insert stamps—all these points I have had to learn by actual practice, and desiring to obviate the difficulties under which most new collectors labor, I have been tempted to give the results of my experience for their benefit.

In commencing a collection the first thing needed is an album. Of these there are many varieties, the choice of which can be regulated by the purchaser's fancy. I think the best are Lallier's and Scott's. The former has panels ruled out for the different varieties, and there is a letter-press description of every stamp issued up to the date of publication. In case new stamps are issued by countries not now using them, leaves of drawing paper can be inserted in their proper places without difficulty. Scott's Album, in many respects, is much better calculated for beginners than Lallier's. It contains spaces for every stamp ever issued, and blanks for new emissions. It is neatly printed, and bound in a variety of forms, and last, though not least, is very cheap, being about half the price of Lallier's. The next step is to procure a good and reliable classified catalogue from an honest and trustworthy dealer. Of these there are several, one of which is published in this city. I leave out purposely several excellent English publications, as the expense of postage in getting them out is heavy and useless

Prepared now with an album and catalogue, the Collector may select, according to his taste, the stamps which please him. One piece of advice let me here insert: whoever you purchase stamps of, be sure the dealer is an honest man. I could surprise the readers of this article by giving a list of foreign stamps counterfeited in this city and Boston, by dealers who say they are willing to warrant every stamp leaving their places. Several of my friends have found out by dear experience that such a guarantee is worth nothing. Upon receiving stamps which it is desirable to place in one's album, the first care is to remove from the backs any paper which may still be adherent. This may be accomplished by placing them in a little cold water, which, in a short time, dissolves the adhesive substances used, besides removing any dust on the face of the stamp. I should mention in this connection, that the Russian stamps will not bear washing, as they are printed in water colors. The paper on their backs, however, should be removed by placing a piece of wet blotting paper over the back, and letting it remain for a few moments. The stamps should be allowed to dry, and may be placed in an old book to get rid of the corrugation produced by the washing. After this they are ready for insertion in the album. In fixing them in, the best plan is to use only mucilage prepared from fine gum arabic. On no account use the mucilage sold in the different stationery stores, it contains in many instances acetic acid which will alter in time the fine colored inks used in printing stamps. In putting the solution of gum upon the stamp use a fine camel's hair brush, and paint only two lines at each end of the stamp.

This method of mounting admits of an easy removal in case it should be-

come necessary, and it is the best beyond a shadow of a doubt. In case stamps require removing which have been completely covered with paste on their backs, wet blotting paper should be allowed to remain upon the stamps for some minutes, when they can be removed without injury to them or the album. Having laid the stamps upon the panels destined to receive them lay a piece of thin paper over them and rub gently with the fingers; this proceeding will fix the stamps firmly and smoothly in their places. In buying stamps my preference is for canceled ones, for the reason they have actually fulfilled the mission for which they were created, while uncanceled stamps, many of which are made by the bank note companies of New York City, and may never have been near the countries whose postage they represent. I certainly would not disdain uncanceled stamps, but prefer the ones actually used. I would here mention the names of a number of reliable dealers, but such a proceeding might savor of favoritism, and produce hard feelings in the mind of those not noticed. However, I will advise every collecting friend, if they desire to become fully posted as to the status of dealers, to apply to the Editor of the "Journal of Philately," he is thoroughly posted, and I am sure will afford every information in his power. One more piece of advice, and I shall have finished. In trimming postage stamps do not cut them too close to the border, and never cut away the perforation as they are a distinguished character of the stamp. Trusting these few words of advice may not have proved superfluous, and apologising for occupying so much space in your valuable "Journal,"

I remain very truly yours,

COSMOPOLITAN.

COLLECTOR'S PHOTOGRAPHS RECEIVED.

H. C. B., F. J. M., G. W. J., Ex-Governor Packer, H. A. M., W. C., J. D., T. C. D., W. J. F., J. J. M., N. L. of California (*this picture varnished—may not copy well*); L. S., Jr. (*Ferretotype, or tin type—no use—returned.*) E. C. L., (*too large—send ordinary vignette.*) H. P. Y., (*painted—will not answer.*) Photographs of following parties returned: S. T., M. M., Jr., R. S. A., P. R., L. N., T. A. R. T., (*We want collectors' pictures only, and those known as such, in any community in the United States.*)

OUR PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY OF THE COIN COLLECTORS OF THE U. S.

We are prepared to receive orders for the large plates of our Photographic Gallery of prominent coin collectors. These plates are made from an enlarged negative—each picture true and life-like in every feature, and, from their enlarged size, readily recognised by the friends of the originals. The plates are intended for framing, and contain the name and residence, in numerical order, of each individual represented. As the publication of this Photographic Gallery has entailed a heavy expense, we have, at the solicitation of many subscribers, published the large Photographic plate, which must not be confused with the magazine plate, as the former is larger, mounted on heavy board, and adapted as an ornament, as well as a useful medium, of making the acquaintance of the noted coin collectors of the country. These plates will be carefully mailed upon rollers, (postage prepaid) to any address, upon receipt of \$2 00. Extra copies of the magazine, containing the small photographic plates, mailed for 25c. A large edition of this "Gallery" number will

be printed, and sent *gratuitous* to all the public libraries and scientific associations in the United States and parts of Europe. Due notice will be given of the appearance of plate No. 2, "COIN COLLECTOR'S GALLERY."

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. C., BOSTON.—It is impossible for us to give the photographs according to the plan you suggest. There is a diversity of opinion in regard to who was the first collector in the United States. Mr. Mickley, of Philadelphia, claims to have commenced his famous collection in 1817; Dr. Dickeson, of the same city, in 1822. We have given the photographs in the order of their reception by us, and we trust there will be no complaint in regard to position. We propose to continue the gallery from time to time, and request collectors to forward their *vignettes* without further notice.

L. R. P., NEW YORK.—We have arranged with a partner, and now fondly look forward to the day when we can enter your city and open a coin trade upon the broad basis of equal and exact justice to all.

S. W., NEW BEDFORD.—The piece you allude to was not the *Non Dependens Status*, neither was it the *Inimica Tyrannis*. There was a clever little bit of strategy laid in terming it the latter; and it succeeded admirably, as you will see anon. The "circular dodge," as you term it, was like the Irishman's gun, it did more execution at the breech than from the muzzle. Had the language been couched in civil terms, we should have pursued a different course, but we could not reply fully without losing a portion of our self respect.

W. W. M., CINCINNATI.—The photographs will be thrown up to make a large picture for framing, and copies

can be had for two dollar each. The name and residence of each person will be printed on the *large plate*.

R. R. P., JR., BALTIMORE.—The Applee, or Appley Brothers, who had the "Old Curiosity Shop" in the Arcade, Chestnut street, Philadelphia, in 1855, were dealers in books, paintings, coins and antiquities. There was a coin dealer in Market street, many years previous—a jeweller—who bought and sold curious coins to collectors. Idler commenced the coin trade in Ninth street, about 1856; Kline in Walnut street, 1856 or '57, and Cogan in 1857 or '58. Mason opened as a dealer in coins in 1860 in North Second street. Warner followed in '62 or '63. This, we think, answers your interrogatories as fully as we are able without further investigation.

M. G. E.—"I have just received a *circular* from Mr. E. Cogan—whom I have dealt with for many years in the way of coins and medals—and I see he comes down on your magazine and your Mr. Mason fearfully, and as I have not seen your 'side of the story,' would like to get those two papers, or rather magazines containing the articles he refers to. It appears to me that the kind of argument used by Cogan is uncalled for, under any circumstances."

You are "a man after our own heart," and after you have read our explanation of matters, you will see "whose ox is gored." You must remember that age should be treated respectfully; and if we have not dipped our pen in gall and wormwood to reply to laboriously argued and badly constructed sentences, it was because we had a *kindly feeling* for our exasperated and impetuous brother of Gotham. There is one point, certainly, in the *circular* which gives the author no enviable position among honorable men, and that is his quotation from a "strictly confiden-

tial" letter, wherein this line is given, "I would say for *your private ear*." Here, then, the author of the "three paged circular" stands self-convicted of doing that which all honorable men have, in the relations of life avoided; while a *private letter* to us explaining the greater part of his animosity remains untouched, although said letter would let a flood of light on the whole matter in dispute. Have answered your other queries by mail.

S. N., NEW YORK.—The whole matter may be summed up in a few words. The remarks made about the piece Mr. C. erroneously called the *Non Dependens Status* was, in substance, as we have given it, as all present at the sale know, and we long since admitted that a few important pieces were scarcely as fine as a literal interpretation of the word "uncirculated" would imply; but our error in following the usual mode of cataloguing has furnished a handle for the unexampled course our friend C. has pursued. We are collecting a few letters from C's best friends, who strongly deprecate the intemperate language he has used.

J. A. S., ALLENTOWN.—Subscription received and magazines mailed. Thank you for articles forwarded. See the present number for the gallery.

W. H. PECK.—We have just received a letter containing stamps from Dead Letter Office, dated Dec. 16. Send your address if removed from Providence.

C. P. N., SPRINGFIELD.—You will get the 1847 set ere many days. Photograph at hand.

F. R. S., GRAND RAPIDS.—Sent you Feb. number. Have no January numbers, 1869. All subscriptions must hereafter date from the time received. Cannot furnish back numbers unless we reprint.

R. C., WESTFIELD.—Sent the coins on approval.

TO STAMP COLLECTORS.

We require a large number of photographs for our first photographic plate.

THE "STAMP COLLECTOR'S GALLERY."

Send only good *clean*, plain *vignettes*, suitable for copying photographically. Our philatelic friends in England, France and Germany, are requested to contribute to a "gallery of Foreign Postage Stamp Collectors," we purpose publishing at some future day.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

We are again under obligations to Messrs. J. W. Scott & Co., publishers of *Am. Journal of Philately*, N. Y., for the use of advance cuts of new foreign stamp issues.

NEW ARRANGEMENT FOR SUBSCRIBERS.

All subscriptions received after the first number of a new volume has been issued, will date from the time the name of subscriber is received at this office.

GRANT INAUGURATION MEDAL.

The Warner Brothers, of Philadelphia have issued a beautiful medal, size 34, struck in white metal. bearing on obverse a faithful likeness of General Grant, our President elect. In exergue the words, GENERAL U. S. GRANT. *Reverse*, semi-wreaths of oak and laurel, their stems tied with a ribband. *Legend* INAUGURATED PRESIDENT OF THE U. S., MARCH 4, 1869. These medals will be mailed free of postage, on receipt of 75 cents. Address Mason & Co., 50 North Tenth street, Philadelphia.

A PARTNER AT LAST.

Having secured an associate partner and editor, we shall hereafter devote our time, and what humble talents we may possess, to the coin department of

our Magazine, and leave the stamp department to the management of our associate—a gentleman every way qualified for the task. We owe an apology to our readers for the introduction of *personal* matters in this number, to the exclusion of other matter of more interest to our subscribers. Next month we will be fully under way, and promise to be punctual to all our patrons, who may have been disappointed in having their orders as promptly executed as they wished. New and important features will be rapidly introduced to make this journal a reliable exponent of the subjects upon which it treats. Our errors and failures have been many and trying during the past two years, and with the additional facilities now at our command, we hope to deserve, as we shall strive to merit, the patronage of the Numismatic public.

E. MASON, JR.

COIN SALES.

We have nothing definite concerning the Mackensie sale of coins in N. Y., but have heard April mentioned as the time. Parties in this city have determined to await the result of this sale before deciding upon a day for offering their own collections to the public.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

Mortonville, Pa., Feb. 6, 1869.

Gentlemen, I have two 15 cent notes, red and green backs, one having the written signatures of F. E. Spinner, Treasurer, which I will exchange for an 1858 Indian Head Proof cent.

Yours truly,

C. B. R.

Mortonville, Pa., Feb. 6.

I have two perfectly uncirculated U. S. cents of 1850 (mint brightness), which I will exchange for U. S. cents of 1848 and 1849, in the same condition.

Yours,

R. S.